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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/760,254	01/21/2004	Kia Silverbrook	RRA01US	1568

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SILVERBROOK RESEARCH PTY LTD
393 DARLING STREET
BALMAIN, 2041
AUSTRALIA

EXAMINER

MARTIN, LAURA E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2853

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/31/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/760,254

Applicant(s)

SILVERBROOK, KIA

Examiner

Laura E. Martin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 November 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(B) as being anticipated by Silverbrook et al. (US 6443555).

Silverbrook et al. discloses the following claim limitations:

As per claim 1: a casing for removable engagement (column 2, lines 61-67) in a complementary recess (figure 10, element 56 or figure 15, element 5) in a printer; a printing fluid storage (figure 11, elements 6 and 26) within the casing; and a pagewidth printhead in communication with said printing fluid storage (column 7, lines 5-12, and figure 21); such that, the pagewidth printhead is disposed adjacent the media feed path when the casing is engaged in the complementary recess (figure 26, elements 41 and 3 and figure 13, element 3).

As per claim 2: the pagewidth printhead is arranged to generate a print of at least 8 inches in width (column 2, lines 50-61).

As per claim 4: the pagewidth printhead includes at least 20,000 printing fluid delivery nozzles in fluid communication with the printing fluid storage (column 3, lines 1-10).

As per claim 5: the pagewidth printhead includes at least 30,000 printing fluid delivery nozzles in fluid communication with the printing fluid storage (column 3, lines 1-10).

As per claim 6: the printing fluid storage includes one or more storage reservoirs for storing an ink for printing (column 7, lines 5-12).

As per claim 7: one or more storage reservoirs separately store a set of colored inks sufficient for color printing (column 7, lines 5-12).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Silverbrook et al. (US 6443555) in view of Silverbrook et al. (US 6439908).

Silverbrook et al. ('555) discloses:

The apparatus of claim 1.

Silverbrook et al. ('555) does not disclose:

The printing fluid storage is housed within a body that includes an arrangement for replenishing of printing fluid from an external source.

Silverbrook et al. ('908) discloses:

The printing fluid storage is housed within a body that includes an arrangement for replenishing of printing fluid from an external source (figure 15).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the apparatus taught by Silverbrook et al. ('555) with the disclosure of Silverbrook et al. ('908) in order to provide for a simpler ink refilling method.

Claims 8 –10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Silverbrook et al. (US 6443555) in view of Silverbrook (US 6281912).

Silverbrook et al. discloses:

As per claims 8 and 9: the apparatus of claim 1.

As per claim 10: an electrical connector in electrical communication with the pagewidth printhead (figure 22, element 21), the electrical connector being disposed on the casing, wherein the electrical connector has a first electrical connector (column 7, line 59-column 8, line 7) disposed adjacent a first end of the pagewidth printhead and the corresponding connector in the inkjet printer has a first corresponding connector for mating with the first electrical connector when the casing engages the complementary recess (figure 25B, elements 46 and 52).

Silverbrook et al. does not disclose:

As per claim 8: one or more storage reservoirs also separately store an ink fixative to aid in fixing the ink delivered by the pagewidth printhead.

As per claim 9: one or more storage reservoirs separately store an infra-red ink for printing.

Silverbrook discloses:

As per claim 8: one or more storage reservoirs also separately store an ink fixative to aid in fixing the ink delivered by the pagewidth printhead (column 2, lines 48-50).

As per claim 9: one or more storage reservoirs separately store an infra-red ink for printing (column 2, lines 48-50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the apparatus taught by Silverbrook et al. with the disclosure of Silverbrook in order to create a wider variety of printing applications.

Claims 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Silverbrook et al. (US 6443555) and Silverbrook (US 6281912), and further in view of McElfresh (US 6557976).

Silverbrook et al. discloses:

The apparatus of claim 1.

Silverbrook discloses:

As per claim 13: the cartridge includes an assembly arranged to direct air over the pagewidth printhead (figure 6, element 68).

As per claim 14: the assembly includes a filter for filtering the air prior to said air being directed over the pagewidth printhead (column 8, lines 60-63).

As per claim 15: the assembly includes an inlet for receiving air from an external source (figure 6, element 61).

As per claim 16: the external source is located in the inkjet printer (figures 4 and 5).

Silverbrook et al. and Silverbrook do not disclose:

As per claim 11: the electrical connector has a second electrical connector disposed adjacent a second end of the pagewidth printhead and the corresponding connector of the inkjet printer has a second corresponding connector of the inkjet printer for mating with the first electrical connector when the casing engages the complementary recess.

As per claim 12: power and data is transmitted to the pagewidth printhead from the inkjet printer through the first and second electrical connectors.

McElfresh et al. discloses:

As per claim 11: the electrical connector has a second electrical connector disposed adjacent a second end of the pagewidth printhead (first electrical connector: figure 2, element 68; column 5, line 56) (second electrical connector: column 6, lines 66-67, figure 5, element 68') and the corresponding connector of the inkjet printer has a second corresponding connector of the inkjet printer for mating with the first electrical connector when the casing engages the complementary recess (column 7, lines 1-3).

As per claim 12: power and data is transmitted to the pagewidth printhead from the inkjet printer through the first and second electrical connectors (column 6, lines 20-22).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the apparatus of Silverbrook et al. as modified with the disclosure of McElfresh et al. in order to facilitate electrical connections.

Response to Arguments

The applicant argues that “where the modules and printhead units are replaceable, it is beyond the ability of the typical user to remove and replace these parts of the printer”; however, the examiner would like to point out that the claim does not recite who should be replacing the modules, but rather that the modules are replaceable. Therefore, the prior art reads on the claim.

In response to applicant's arguments, the recitation “the components do not fall within the scope of the term ‘cartridge’” has not been given patentable weight because the recitation occurs in the preamble. A preamble is generally not accorded any patentable weight where it merely recites the purpose of a process or the intended use of a structure, and where the body of the claim does not depend on the preamble for completeness but, instead, the process steps or structural limitations are able to stand alone. See *In re Hirao*, 535 F.2d 67, 190 USPQ 15 (CCPA 1976) and *Kropa v. Robie*, 187 F.2d 150, 152, 88 USPQ 478, 481 (CCPA 1951).

The applicant also argues that Silverbrook et al. “does not disclose a casing that houses the printhead and the printing fluid storage for insertion and removal from the printer”; however, the examiner disagrees. The main printer housing (element 56) houses printhead modules (1) and cartridges (6), both of which are replaceable, and

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therefore removable from the casing. The claim does not disclose specifically what is removable (whether the casing is removable or whether the components within the casing are removable). The shield (element 5) and the element behind the shield in figure 15 is a casing held within the housing, from which the printhead modules (element 1) are removably mounted.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laura E. Martin whose telephone number is (571) 272-2160. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:00 - 3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen D. Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Laura E. Martin

 1/26/07
MANISH S. SHAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER